

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A binder for the production of a layer and/or a coating containing aggregates for road works and/or civil engineering, consisting essentially of, based on the total weight of (a) and (b):

(a) 30 to 80% in weight of at least one natural or modified natural resin, of vegetable origin, having a softening point measured according to the standard EN 1427 of 30 to 200°C;

(b) 20 to 70% in weight of at least one oil of vegetable origin having a viscosity at 25°C of 50mPa.s to 1000Pa.s, ~~and, optionally~~

(c) optionally one or several coloring agents, and

(d) ~~at least one catalyst for polymerizing the~~ vegetable oil(s) are used (i) without a catalyst or (ii) in the presence of a catalyst selected from the group consisting of cobalt octanoates or naphtenates, zirconium octanoates or naphtenates and manganese octanoates or naphtenates,

wherein said binder has:

(e1) a penetrability of 25°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 1426, of 20 to 300 1/10 mm and a softening point of 30 to 75°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 1427; or

(e2) a penetrability at 15°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 1426, of 300 to 900 1/10 mm and a viscosity at 60°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 12596 of 2 to 20Pa.s; and

wherein said binder is exempt of any natural or synthetic elastomer and of any thermoplastic polymer.

19. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 18, wherein the resin has a softening point measured according to the standard EN 1427 of 80 to 200°C.

20. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 18, wherein the resin has a softening point measured according to the standard EN 1427 of 100 to 200°C.

21. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 18, wherein the resin has a softening point measured according to the standard EN 1427 of 120 to 180°C.

22. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 18, wherein said binder comprises 40 to 70% in weight of resin and 30 to 60% in weight of vegetable oil.

23. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 18, wherein the natural or modified natural resin of vegetable origin is a harvest resin.

24. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 23, wherein the resin is selected from the group consisting of accroid resins, dammar, natural or modified natural rosins, rosin esters, rosin soaps and metal resinates.

25. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 24, wherein the rosin esters are polymerized rosin esters and glycerol and/or maleated rosin esters and glycerol and the resonates are calcium resinates.

26. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 18, wherein the natural or modified natural resin of vegetable origin is a fossil resin.

27. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 26, wherein the resin is selected from the group consisting of the copals.

28. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 18, wherein the vegetable oil is an oil selected from the group consisting of colza oil, sunflower oil, soja bean oil, flax oil, olive oil, palm oil, ricin oil, wood oil, maize oil, gourd oil, grape pips oil, jojoba oil, sesame oil, nut oil, hazel oil, almond oil, shea oil, macadamia oil, cotton oil, Lucerne oil, rye oil, cartham oil, groundnut oil, copra oil, and mixtures thereof.

29. (currently amended) The binder according to claim 18, wherein the vegetable oils are used in the presence of the ~~catalyst is selected from the group consisting of cobalt salt, zirconium salt, and manganese salt.~~

30. (currently amended) The binder according to claim 18, wherein the vegetable oils are used without a catalyst ~~the salt is an octanoate or a naphtenate.~~

31. (presently presented) A binder for the production of a layer and/or a coating containing aggregates for road works and/or civil engineering, consisting essentially of, based on the total weight of (a) and (b):

(a) 30 to 80% in weight of at least one natural or modified natural resin, of vegetable origin, having a softening point measured according to the standard EN 1427 of 30 to 200°C;

(b) 20 to 70% in weight of at least one oil of vegetable origin having a viscosity at 25°C of 50mPa.s to 1000Pa.s, and, optionally

(c) one or several coloring agents,

(d) at least one catalyst for polymerizing vegetable oil(s),

wherein said binder has:

(e1) a penetrability of 25°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 1426, of 20 to 300 1/10 mm and a softening point of 30 to 75°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 1427; or

(e2) a penetrability at 15°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 1426, of 300 to 900 1/10 mm and a viscosity at 60°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 12596 of 2 to 20Pa.s.

32. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 31, wherein the resin has a softening point measured according to the standard EN 1427 of 80 to 200°C.

33. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 31, wherein the resin has a softening point measured according to the standard EN 1427 of 100 to 200°C.

34. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 31, wherein the resin has a softening point measured according to the standard EN 1427 of 120 to 180°C.

35. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 31, wherein said binder comprises 40 to 70% in weight of resin and 30 to 60% in weight of vegetable oil.

36. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 31, wherein the natural or modified natural resin of vegetable origin is a harvest resin.

37. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 36, wherein the resin is selected from the group consisting of accroid resins, dammar, natural or modified natural rosins, rosin esters, rosin soaps and metal resinsates.

38. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 37, wherein the rosin esters are polymerized rosin esters and glycerol and/or maleated rosin esters and glycerol and the resonates are calcium resinsates.

39. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 31, wherein the natural or modified natural resin of vegetable origin is a fossil resin.

40. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 39, wherein the resin is selected from the group consisting of the copals.

41. (previously presented) The binder according to claim 31, wherein the vegetable oil is an oil selected from the group consisting of colza, sunflower, soja bean, flax, olive, palm, ricin, wood, maize, gourd, grape pips, jojoba, sesame, nut, hazel, almond, shea, macadamia, cotton, Lucerne, rye, cartham, groundnut, copra, and mixtures thereof.

42. (presently presented) The binder according to claim 31, wherein the vegetable oils are used in the presence of the catalyst is selected from the group consisting of cobalt salt, zirconium salt, and manganese salt.

43. (presently presented) A binder for the production of a layer and/or a coating containing aggregates for road works and/or civil engineering, consists of, based on the total weight of (a) and (b):

(a) 30 to 80% in weight of at least one natural or modified natural resin, of vegetable origin, having a softening point measured according to the standard EN 1427 of 30 to 200°C;

(b) 20 to 70% in weight of at least one oil of vegetable origin having a viscosity at 25°C of 50mPa.s to 1000Pa.s, and, optionally

(c) one or several coloring agents,

(d) at least one catalyst for polymerizing vegetable oil(s),

wherein said binder has:

(e1) a penetrability of 25°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 1426, of 20 to 300 1/10 mm and a softening point of 30 to 75°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 1427; or

(e2) a penetrability at 15°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 1426, of 300 to 900 1/10 mm and a viscosity at 60°C, measured according to the standard NF EN 12596 of 2 to 20Pa.s.